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COMMANDER, NAVAL SURFACE WEAPONS CENTER DAHLGREN, VIRGINIA 22448

28 July 1977

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U. S. NAVAL PROVING GROUND DAHLGREN, VIRGINIA

NPG MEMORANDUM REPORT NO. 1-47

PROGRESS REPORT NO. 1 ON DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH VELOCITY ARMOR-PIERCING PROJECTILES

Prepared by:

J. J. Glancy Ordnance Engineer APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE,

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o:

PREFACE

AUTHORIZATION

This study is being carried out under Bureau of Ordnance Task Assignment Re3b-202-1 as authorized by the Lureau of Ordnance in reference (b). A copy of the local directive for this Task Assignment is included in Appendix III.

OBJECT

This progress report is part of a continuing investigation to develop a 3" armor piercing projectile of improved ballistic quality at high striking velocities and high obliquities. The study described herein was conducted in order to gain more information concerning the behavior of currently available 3" AP projectiles when fired against 3" homogeneous armor at high obliquities and high impact velocities up to the maximum presently obtainable.

SUMMARY

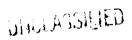
Two available lots of 3" M62 Capped AP projectiles and one lot of 3" Mk. 29-2 Capped AP projectiles were tested versus 3" homogeneous armor at 120,000 p.s.i. tensile strength at 30° and 45° obliquity. Ballistic limits were obtained when possible under the above conditions. Striking velocities of the projectiles were then increased in increments above the limit velocities up to the maximum presently obtainable. The condition of projectiles after impact was observed.

In general the terminal ballistic performance of M62 projectiles was poorer than that of Mk. 29-2 projectiles. In terms of BuOrd Sk. 78841, the ballistic limits of M62 projectiles were higher than those of Mk. 29-2 projectiles. Up to the highest impact velocities obtained and reported herein (approximately 2900 ft./sec.), the Mk. 29-2 projectiles showed no shatter, but the M62 projectiles split and broke up on impact even at striking velocities above the limit. The hardness pattern made of one M62 projectile shows a soft area at the nose which probably accounts for the poor performance of the M62 projectiles.



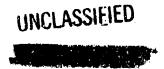
REFERENCES

- (a) Definitions of Terms Used in the Ballistic Testing of Armor. Revision B. U. S. Naval Proving Ground Report No. 10-46 dated June 1946.
- (b) BuOrd ltr. S78-1(55) Re3 (Re3b-202) dated 30 September 1947 to NPG.
- (c) BuOrd ltr. S78-1(55) Re3 (Re3b-202) dated 8 August 1947 to NPG.
- (d) Office of the Chief of Ordnance ltr. ORDTM dated 28 July 1947 to BuOrd.



I. INTRODUCTION

The contemplated use of high muzzle velocity guns makes it important that the Army and Navy develop armorpiercing projectiles with satisfactory performance against armor at high striking velocities. The Naval Proving Ground has undertaken the task of developing 3" armor-piercing projectiles with improved ballistic qualities at high striking velocities and high obliquities. Additional information about this task is given in references (b), (c), and (d). This first progress report describes the performance of two existing 3" AP projectiles at striking velocities above limit against 3" homogeneous armor at 30° and 45° obliquity.



II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Projectiles:

Chevrolet 14.7 lb. 3" M62 Capped AP Projectile Lot CM-2-81-1943 and Lot CM-3-59-1943 Oldsmobile 13 lb. 3" Mk. 29-2 Capped AP Projectile Lot 130-1942 Figure 1 is a photograph of these projectiles. Figure 2 is a hardness pattern of 3" M62 projectile Lot-2-81-1943.

Plates:

3" Class B Carnegie-Illinois No. X-9021 3" Class B Carnegie-Illinois No. BD-389 1/4

Chemical Analysis of Plates

C.I. X-9021 .31 .25 .013 .020 .08 3.26 1.43 C.I. BD-389 1/4 .34 .25 .013 .020 .08 4.10 2.23

Physical Properties of Plates

Two 3' x 3' sections from each of the above plates were used in the ballistic tests. The following table lists the arbitrary numbers assigned each of the sections and the physical properties of each plate section:

Table I

<u>Plate</u>	APL Plate No.	Y.S.(.2%)	T.S.	% El.	% RA	BHN	RC
C.I. X-9021 C.I. X-9021 C.I. BD-389 C.I. BD-389	675 1/4 676	102,475 101,725 98,600 101,100	121,650 120,800 120,100 120,300	22.3 24.0	62.0 67.9	256 255	23.1 23.1

Yield Strength (Y.S.), Tensile Strength (T.S.), % Elongation (% El.), and % Reduction of Area (% RA) are the average of two tests. Brinell Hardness Number (BHN) and Rockwell "C" Hardness (Rc) are the average of five readings.

Methods:

All ballistic limits in this report are expressed in terms of $F(e/d,\theta)$ values, where $F(e/d,\theta)$ is defined as follows:

$$F(e/d, \Theta) = \frac{41.57 \text{ M } 1/2 \text{ VL Cos. } \Theta}{e 1/2 \text{ d}}$$

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NP9-35625 - 3" Projectiles used: Left, 3" Mk. 29-2 AP Sapped Lot 130-1942, Manufacturer - Oldsmobile; Right, 3" M62 AP Capped Lot CM-2-81-1943, Manufacturer - Chevrolet.
October 1947

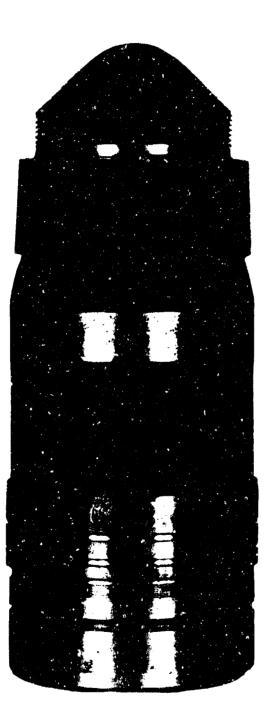




FIG. I

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17 OCTOBER 1947

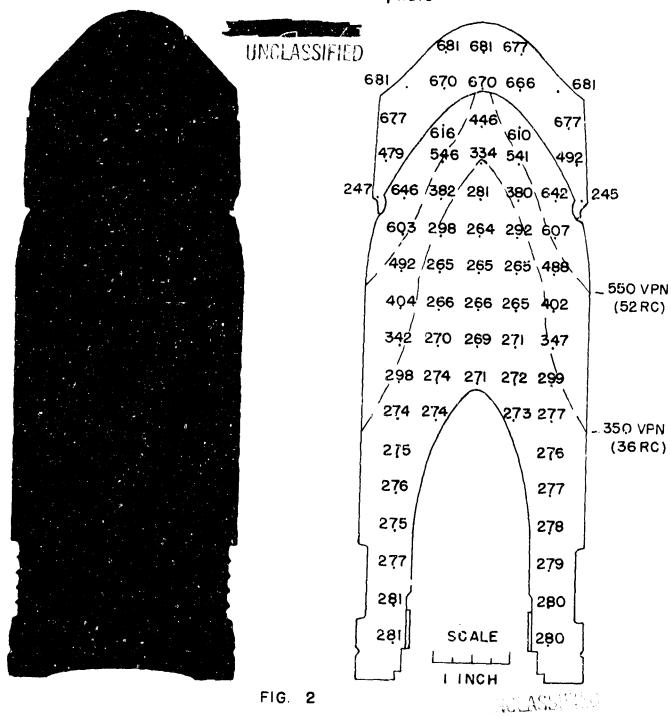
HARDNESS DISTRIBUTION AND MACROSECTION OF

3"AP PROJECTILE M62 MANUFACTURED BY

CHEVROLET LOT No. CM-2-81

Hardness Values: Vickers Pyramid (50 kg.)

Etch: Ammonium Persulphate



Where

M, is the projectile mass in pounds, V_L, is the limit velocity in feet per second (the minimum velocity required for the major portion of the projectile to pass completely through the plate), Q, the obliquity, is the angle between the normal to the plate and the line of flight, e, is the plate thickness in inches at the point of impact, and d, is the diameter of the projectile in inches. All quantities entering on the right side of the defining expression above are susceptible of measurement. The limit penetration coefficient, or F-coefficient, as the method of writing shows, is a function of e/d and Q only. Its usefulness lies in the fact that it is a slowly varying function of these quantities and that its use enables comparison between plates of slightly differing thicknesses tested at slightly differing obliquities by projectiles of slightly differing properties.

The striking coefficient, usually designated by F_s , is defined in the same manner as the F-coefficient except that the velocity entering into the formula is striking velocity rather than limit velocity. It is useful for interpolation in allowing for small changes in obliquity and thickness for the several impacts in a limit determination.

It is customary in the Navy to refer F-coefficients to the empirical expression, derived from a 1931 analysis of penetration data, embodied in Bureau of Ordnance Sketch No. 78841. F-coefficients thus referred are expressed as "% Sk. 78841". In this connection care must be taken not to expect that a plate of average quality will necessarily have a limit of 100%, and by the same token, not to compare limits in % Sk. 78841 taken under widely differing conditions.

More complete information on all the above terms is to be found in reference (a).



III. RESULTS

The results are given in detail in Appendices I and II and are summarized in Table II

IV. DISCUSSION:

3" Mk. 29-2 Cupped A. P. Projectiles.

Against 3" homogeneous armor at 30° and 45° obliquity the 3" Mk. 29-2 projectiles generally remained intact and effective at striking velocities up to the maximum velocity tested to date, namely, up to approximately 2900 feet per second.

3" M62 Capped A. P. Projectiles.

Against 3" homogeneous armor at 30° and 45° obliquity the M62 projectiles from both lots fired showed a tendency to split and break up at striking velocities up to the maximum velocity tested to date, namely, up to approximately 2700 feet per second.

Future Action.

A lot of M62 projectiles of proven high quality is being procurred and tests of this lot should definitely establish the ballistic quality of the M62 projectile. In addition tests of currently available 3" projectiles will continue at higher velocities and other conditions until complete data are obtained.



TABLE II

SUMMARY OF BALLISTIC RESULTS

Projectile tile M62 M62	FI	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	061.	Vel. Ft/Sec 2420	V _L Limit F(e/d, 0) 64,500	V _L Limit F(e/d, 0) 78841 64,500 127	Vel. Ft/Sec 2661	Maximum * Fs 71,000	% Sk. 78841 139.8	Remarks Projectiles Split or broke up on Menst impacts.
3" AP MK.29-2 3" AP M62	5, s	Homo. T.S. 121,000 p.s.i. Homo. T.S.	30°	2322	58,400 Greater than	114 Greater than	2810	70,700	138.6	Projectiles by did not shatter or break up on any impact. Projectiles broke up and
AP 29-2 Maximu	. 7 1	AP 7 Homo. 45 29-2 7.8°.1. Maximum velocity fired	o t	2708 date.	55,600	106.2	2898	59,500	110.5	could not penetrate the armor at any striking velocity ob- tained to date. Frojectiles did not shatter or break up on any impact.

V. FACILITIES

Certain special tools needed for the fabrication of projectiles are being obtained by the Navy. Procurement of these is proceeding satisfactorily. It is expected that the task of manufacturing the first complete projectile can be undertaken by 1 April 1948.

In addition, steps have been taken to obtain an experimental, high-velocity gun. A 5"/51 caliber gun lined down to 3" caliber has been ordered for this purpose. It will take, however, at least six (6) months to obtain this gun. It is hoped to minimize the time interval before high velocities can be obtained by the temporary use of a 3"/70 gun.

J. J. Glancy Ordnance Engineer

APPENDIX I

IMPACT DATA

3" M62 & 3" Mk. 29-2

vs

3" Class B Plate

at

30 ° & 45° obliquity



SYMBOLS

- e ---- Plate thickness at impact in inches
- O ---- Obliquity. Angle between trajectory and normal to plate at impact.
- M - - Projectile mass in lbs.
- Vs - - Striking velocity in feet per second.
- Pene. - Depth of penetration in inches measured from front surface normal to plane of plate.
- F (e/d,9) - F coefficient Limit penetration coefficient.
- Fs ---- The striking coefficient It is the same as the F coefficient except that striking velocity is used instead of limit velocity.
- % ---- Limit Penetration F coefficient in % of empirical F (e/d,0) value (BuOrd Sk. 78841).
- CP ---- Complete penetration. Major portion of projectile completely through the plate.
- SIP - - Projectile stuck in plate.
- Intact - Projectile whole but may be deformed.
- Eff. - - Effective. Cavity and base plug not injured.

 Projectile would detonate if loaded and fuzed.
- Split - - The projectile split into two or more parts along its longitudinal axis.

For ballistic limit and other definitions see reference (a).

APL PLATE NO 673 MFG Carnesie 310 CL. **3** MFG PLATE NO \$2-9021	LIZ STRANGIE PSI.		STRIKING STRIKING STRIKING STRIKING E/D STRIKING STRIKING	\$9°\$0'2367 Inc. 1.08 57.500 118.7 89°\$0'2428	
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	NP3		THICKNESS	4875 31209 4875 31205 4875 31212 4876 31212 4876 31209 4830 31209	5,204 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

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4887	31197	Clean hole, retals wined	01d 8.3" Vk.29-2	CS-8 21980		13.00	Intact, effective	30.10	5353	- Z	20	507	4
4888 4889	3,204	Reg hole, retals wiped Clean hole, retals wiped	4.3	FC-1 21988 PC-2 21988		14.70	Broken, split, not eff.	30.20	2740	Cp.	07 70	202.07	335.5
4890	3#200	2-3/4" Penta	Chev. 3. 1662 Lot 3-59	2 3U-1 2 2 991 9 GU-2		4.70	not eff	25-40	2495	Inc.	1		227.2
4892	3#197	1		60-3 21991 The W62	∾	14.70 14.70 projectile	Split, not effective Kose split, effective es from both lote fired pe	30-10.	27.55	Inc. 1	17 70	23,000	133.9 139.8
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APPENDIX II

IMPACT PHOTOGRAPHS

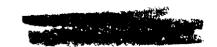
3" M62 & 3" Mk. 29-2

vs

3" Class B Plate

at

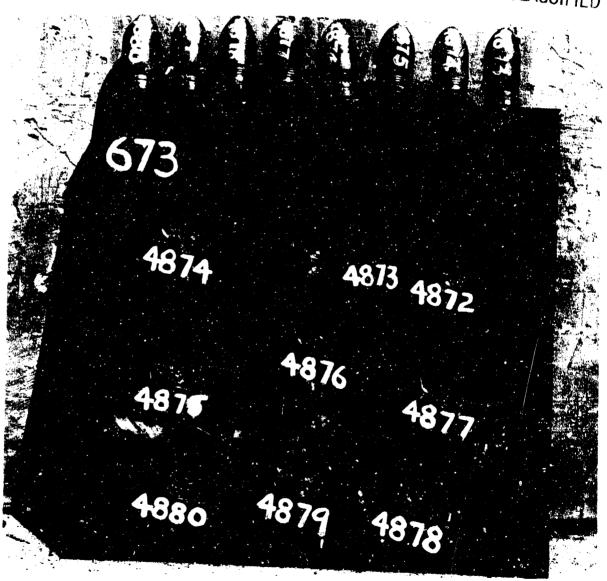
30° & 45° obliquity



NP9 36361 - APL Plate No. 673 (340 Cl. "B" 3.f. No. X9021) ".s. 141,700 per va. 3" AP Ek. 29-2 Projectiles at 30° Obliquity. PROPER AEA. See NP9 35373 for back view.

B.1. No.	"6"	<u>e"</u>	;.V.(r.s.)	%	Pone.	Pro to const
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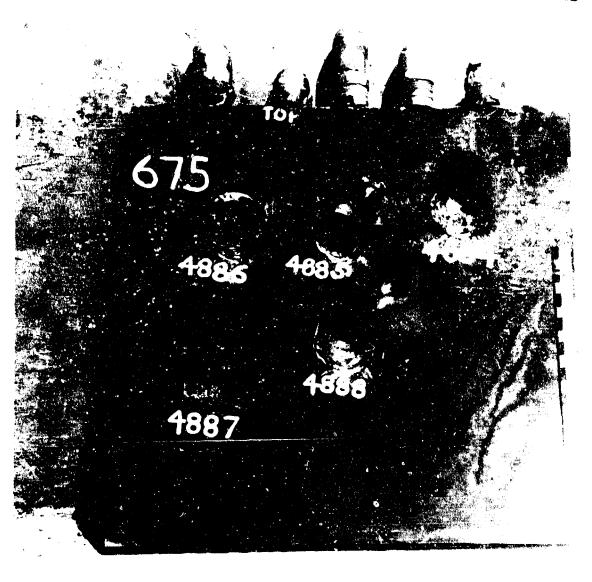
859 36373 - APL Plate No. 623 (300 01. "B" 0.1. No. X9621) P.CK VIEW. See NP9 35361 for front view and data on impacts 4872-80 NPS.
.5, 17 Sept. 1942



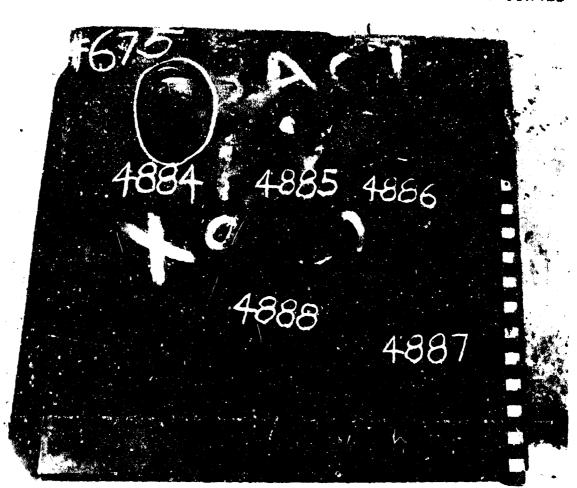


MP9 35437 - APL Plate No. 675 (3TO Cl. "B" C.I. No. X9621) T.S. 126,800 psi vs. 3" AP M62 and 3" Mk. 29-2 AP Projectiles at 30° Obliquity. FRONT VIXW. See NP9 3543P for back view.

B.I. Ho.		-0-	3.7.(1.0.)	A	Pene.	Pro'. Cond.
4864 APL 4865 4886 4887 Nr.29-2 4886 17, 18 Sept. 1	37207 37209 37211 37197 37204 947	30*10* 30*10* 30*10* 30*20*	2423 2522 2649 2606 2740	123 128 134 125 137	Inc. 3-1/2" Comp. B.I.P. Comp. Comp. Comp.	Split, not eff. Broken, split, not eff. Broken, split, not eff. Intact, eff. Broken, split, not eff.

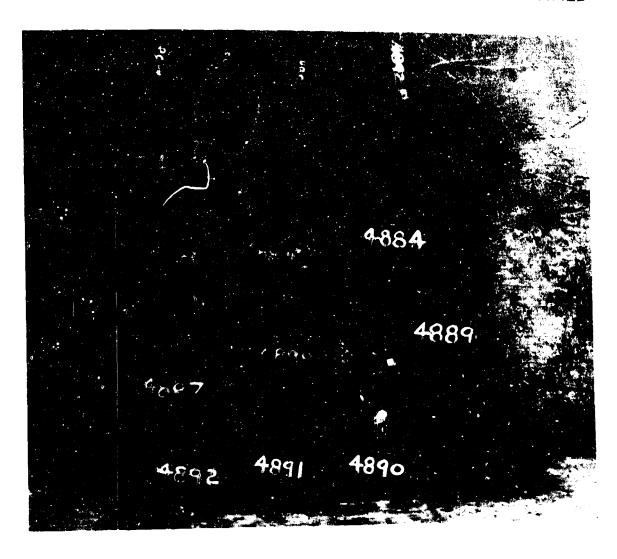


NP9 35438 - APL Plate No. 675 (370 Cl. "B"C.I. No. K9021) BACK VIEW. See NP9 35437 for front view and data on impacts 4684-88 APL.

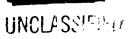


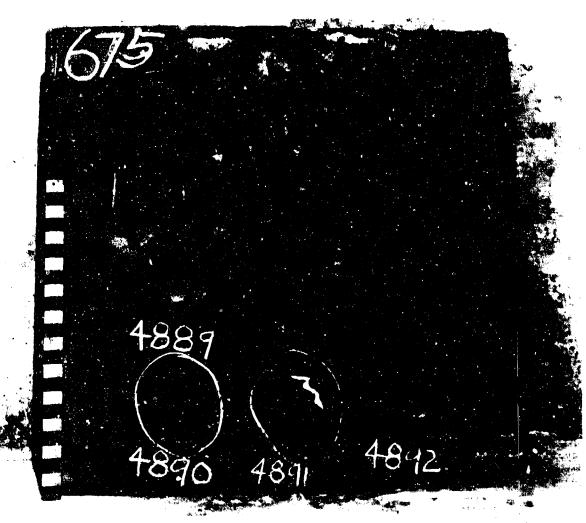
NP9 35439 - APL Plate No. 575 (300 Cl. "B" C.: No. X9021) T. 1. 120,800 pat Mg. 3" AP M62 and 3" Mx. 29-2 AP Projectiles at 30° obliquity. FMONT VINK. See here 3 that for back view.

B.I. No.	<u>"e"</u>	-0-	3.V. (f.s.)	2	Pene.	Prol. Cond.
4884 APL	31207	30°10'	2423	123	Inc. 3-1/2"	Split, not eff.
4885	34209	30*10*	?522	128	Comp.B.I.P.	Broken, split, not eff.
L886	37211	30*10*	2649	134	Comp.	Broken, split, not eff.
887 M. 29-2	37197	30°10'	2606	125	Comp.	Intact, eff.
.888	31204	30*201	2740	137	Comp.	Broken, aplit, not eff.
4889	37203	29.40	2618	133	Comp.	Body cracked, off.
890	37200	29.40	2496	127	Ino. 2-3/4"	Jplit, not eff.
891	37199	29.40	2627	134	Ins.	Split, not off.
892	37197	30-10	2755	140	Comp.	Nose split, eff.
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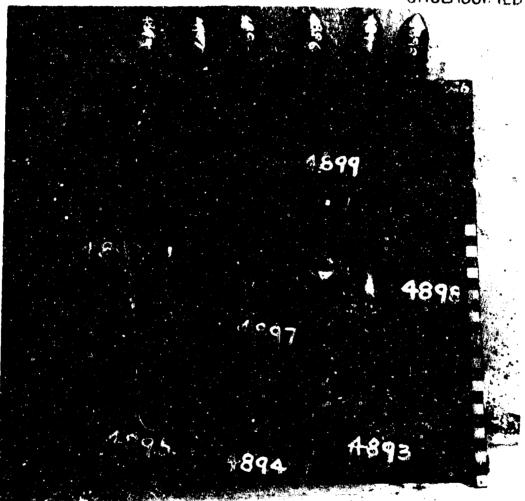
NEW 3544C - ASI l'Ate le. 675 (310 0). "B" D.I. No. A9(21) BACK VIEW. Jee NEW 35439 for front view and date on impacts 4384-92 APL. 17, 18, 22 Sept. 1947



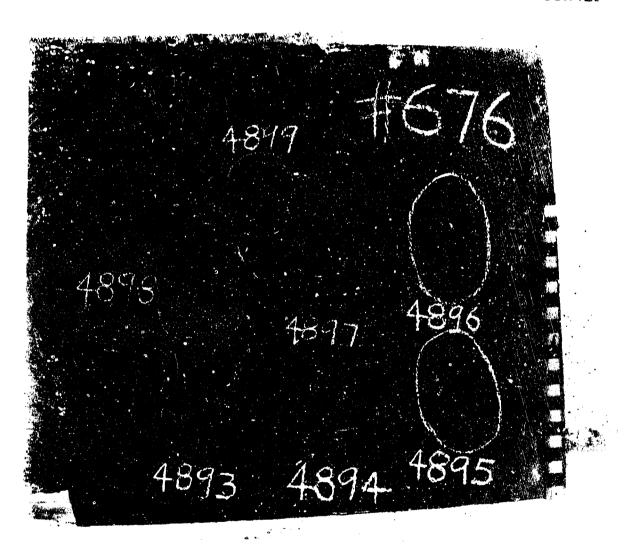


NP9 55641 - APL Plate No. 026 (340 d), MRM C.I. No. BD 389 1047 F. C. vs. 37 Mk. 2942 AP Projectiles at 457 Obliquity. FRIED VIEW. See NE CALL for besk view.

8.1. No.	<u>"•"</u>	-0-	3.V.(f.s.)	\$	Pene.	mr. J. Sout.
4893 API. 4894 4895 4896 4897 4898 4899 22, 23 Sept	34047 34055 34059 34053 34044 34040 34035 1947	44°40° 44°40° 44°40° 44°40° 44°40°	2810 2730 2752 2750 2900 (est. 2772 2701	107 103 104 104 1111 106 103	Comp. Comp. Inc. 2-5/8* Inc. 2-3/4* Comp. Inc. 2-3/4* SIP 2-5/8*	Intact, eff. Base Cracket, eff. Base Cracket, eff. Base gouged, eff. Base gouged, eff. Base gouged, eff. Buse gouged, eff.

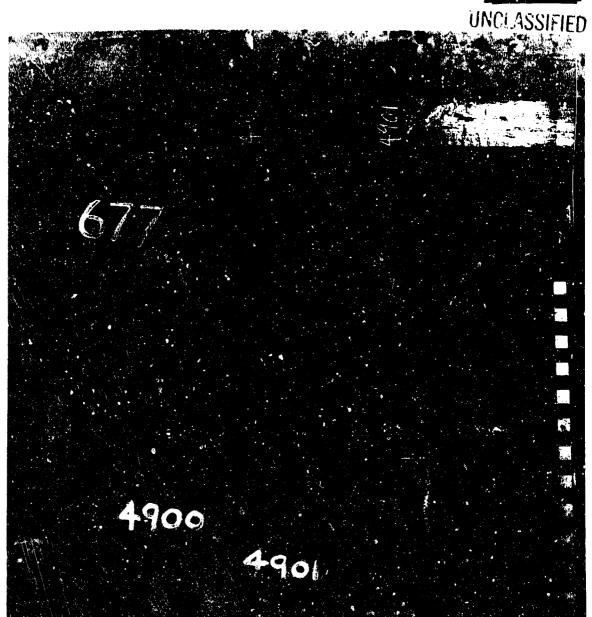


NP9 35448 - APL Plate No. 676 (370 Cl. "B" C.I. No. BD 389 1/4) BACK VIEW. Gee NP9 35441 for front view and data on impacts 4893-99 APL. 22, 23 Sept. 1947



NP9 35485 - APL Plate No. 677 (3WC Cl. "B" C.I. No. BD 389-1/4) T.3. 120,300 psi vs. 3" M62 AP Projectiles at 45° Obliquity. FRONT VIEW. See NP9 35486 for back view.

B.I. No.	"e"	<u>"A"</u>	3.V.(f.a.)	<u>%</u>	Pene.	Proj. Cond.
4900 API. 4901	31005 31013	45°001 45°401	2487 2649	101 106	Inc. Inc.	Shattered, not eff. Shattered, not eff.
24 Sept. 194	₊ 7					



NP9 35486 - APL Plate No. 677 (370 Cl. "B" C.I. No. 389-1/4) BACK VIEW. See NP9 35485 for Front View and data on impacts 4900-01 APL. 24 Sept. 1947

I CLASSIEITH



APPENDIX III

LOCAL DIRECTIVES



COPY

U. S. NAVAL PROVING GROUND DAHLGREN, VIRGINIA

15 September 1947

PROJECT TL-3212-1.2

Directive for Tests Nos. 1 and 2.

- l. In order to gain more information concerning the behavior of presently available 3" AP projectiles as a preliminary to evolving new designs, it is desired to test the 3" AP Mk. 29-2 and 3" AP M62 projectiles against Class A and Class B armor, with particular attention to the highest striking velocities obtainable.
- 2. Until the completion of this series of tests, the procedure to be followed in firing will be to determine the limit on the plate, increase the velocity in approximately 200 f.s. steps to the maximum attainable, then fire additional rounds as necessary to explore the "shatter region" more fully. The 3"/50 gun and Mk. 29-2 and M62 projectiles will be used.
- 3. Test No. 1 will be fired under the following conditions: 3" Class B plate, of approximately 120,000 psi tensile strength, at 30° obliquity. Test No. 2 will be fired under the same conditions, except that the obliquity will be 45°.

J. G. FRANKLIN Armor Officer

Copy to: BO, XO, TO, TL(3), TK.

